

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A UI display apparatus that displays, on a screen, an icon representing a device connected to a network, said UI display apparatus comprising:

a recording unit in which display judgment information is recorded, the display judgment information indicating whether or not information should be displayed on the screen;

a communication unit operable to communicate with another device connected to the network;

an obtainment unit operable to obtain, via said communication unit, device-related information related to the device connected to the network;

a judgment unit operable to compare the device-related information obtained by said obtainment unit with the display judgment information recorded in said recording unit, and operable to judge whether or not the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information;

a display unit operable to display the device-related information obtained via said communication unit, when said judgment unit judges that the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information; and

a communication status recording unit operable to record a communication status for each communication protocol of a plurality of communication protocols, when said communication unit carries out a communication using at least one communication protocol of the plurality of communication protocols,

wherein the display judgment information recorded in said recording unit includes, in a hierarchical format, (i) a plurality of pieces of device type information, each piece of the plurality of pieces of device type information identifying a type of a device connected to the

network, and (ii) a plurality of pieces of device information, each piece of the plurality of pieces of device information identifying information about the device for which the type is identified by a corresponding piece of the device type information of the plurality of pieces of device type information,

wherein the device-related information obtained by said obtainment unit is in a hierarchical format,

wherein said judgment unit repeats the judgment by comparing the display judgment information having the hierarchical format and the device-related information having the hierarchical format, starting from a higher layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information and continuing to a lower layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information,

wherein said judgment unit judges, in the higher layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information, whether or not the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information,

wherein, when the device-related information is judged by said judgment unit to be identified in the higher layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information, said judgment unit judges, in the lower layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information, whether or not the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information, and

wherein said display unit changes an icon displayed thereon corresponding to the device-related information, the icon being displayed in association with a layer of the device-related information in the hierarchical format judged, by said judgment unit, as being identified in the display judgment information.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Previously Presented) The UI display apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising an authentication unit operable to authenticate whether or not the device-related information obtained by said obtainment unit has been sent from an authorized device, the authentication unit performing the authentication using an identifier to identify the device, such that, when the device-related information is authenticated as being sent from the authorized device, the device-related information is determined to be valid,

wherein said display unit displays the device-related information when the device-related information is determined to be valid.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented) The UI display apparatus according to Claim 1,

wherein said obtainment unit obtains the device-related information via said communication unit, using at least one or a combination of the plurality of communication protocols, and

wherein said display unit performs the display of the device-related information in accordance with the communication status, for the at least one or the combination of the plurality of communication protocols, recorded in said communication status recording unit and the device-related information obtained by said obtainment unit.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented) The UI display apparatus according to Claim 5,
wherein the display of the device-related information is a display of one of an icon display and a text display, and

wherein said display unit displays one of the icon display and the text display that corresponds to the device-related information, when said judgment unit judges that the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented) The UI display apparatus according to Claim 5,
wherein the display of the device-related information is a display of one of an icon display and a text display, and

wherein said display unit displays one of the icon display and the text display differently for each communication status recorded for each communication protocol of the plurality of communication protocols, when said judgment unit judges that the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented) The UI display apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising an input update unit through which a user selects the display judgment information recorded in said recording unit and inputs and updates the selected display judgment information.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A UI display method for use with a UI display apparatus that displays, on a screen, an icon representing a device connected to a network, said UI display method comprising:

a recording step of recording display judgment information indicating whether or not

information should be displayed on the screen;

a communication step of communicating with another device connected to the network;

an obtainment step of obtaining, via said communication step, device-related information related to the device connected to the network;

a judgment step of comparing the device-related information obtained in said obtainment step with the display judgment information recorded in said recording step, and judging whether or not the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information;

a display step of displaying the device-related information obtained via said communication step, when said judgment step judges that the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information; and

a communication status recording step of recording a communication status for each communication protocol of a plurality of communication protocols, when said communication step carries out a communication using at least one communication protocol of the plurality of communication protocols,

wherein the display judgment information recorded in said recording step includes, in a hierarchical format, (i) a plurality of pieces of device type information, each piece of the plurality of pieces of device type information identifying a type of a device connected to the network, and (ii) a plurality of pieces of device information, each piece of the plurality of pieces of device information identifying information about the device for which the type is identified by a corresponding piece of the device type information of the plurality of pieces of device type information,

wherein the device-related information obtained by said obtainment step is in a hierarchical format,

wherein said judgment step repeats the judgment by comparing the display judgment information having the hierarchical format and the device-related information having the hierarchical format, starting from a higher layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information and continuing to a lower layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information,

wherein said judgment step judges, in the higher layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information, whether or not the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information,

wherein, when the device-related information is judged by said judgment step to be identified in the higher layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information, said judgment step judges, in the lower layer of the hierarchical format of the display judgment information, whether or not the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information, and

wherein said display step changes an icon displayed thereon corresponding to the device-related information, the icon being displayed in association with a layer of the device-related information in the hierarchical format judged, by said judgment step, as being identified in the display judgment information.

Claim 10 (Cancelled)

Claim 11 (Cancelled)

Claim 12 (Previously Presented) The UI display method according to Claim 9, further

comprising an authentication step of authenticating whether or not the device-related information obtained in said obtainment step has been sent from an authorized device, said authentication step performing the authentication using an identifier to identify the device, such that, when the device-related information is authenticated as being sent from the authorized device, the device-related information is determined to be valid,

wherein, in said display step, the device-related information is displayed when the device-related information is determined to be valid.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented) The UI display method according to Claim 9,

wherein, in said obtainment step, the device-related information is obtained via said communication step, using at least one or a combination of the plurality of communication protocols, and

wherein, in said display step, the display of the device-related information is performed in accordance with the communication status, for the at least one or the combination of the plurality of communication protocols, recorded in said communication status recording step and the device-related information obtained in said obtainment step.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented) The UI display method according to Claim 13,

wherein the display of the device-related information is a display of one of an icon display and a text display, and

wherein, in said display step, one of the icon display and the text display that corresponds to the device-related information is performed, when said judgment step judges that the device-related information is identified in the display judgment information.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The UI display method according to Claim 13,
wherein the display of the device-related information is a display of one of an icon
display and a text display, and

wherein, in said display step, one of the icon display and the text display is performed
differently for each communication status recorded for each communication protocol of the
plurality of communication protocols, when said judgment step judges that the device-related
information is identified in the display judgment information.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented) The UI display method according to Claim 9, further
comprising an input update step through which a user selects the display judgment information
recorded in said recording step and inputs and updates the selected display judgment
information.

Claim 17 (Cancelled)

Claim 18 (Previously Presented) A non-transitory computer-readable recording medium
storing a program thereon, the program causing a computer to execute the method of claim 9.